

note that may be rendered as *tsli-tsli-tsli-tsli-tsli* or sometimes an almost disyllabic *tsuli* . . . The area was a rock-strewn alpine meadow at an altitude of 4300 metres, well above tree-line and also above scrub growth. See also the *Ibis* 107 (1965) : 400-401.

Another sight record is reported by G. Diesselhorst (Khumbu Himal, Vol. 2 : 273, Innsbruck-München, 1968) from Gokyo north of Namche Bazar at nearly 5000 m. on July 27. The altitude, habitat and behaviour undoubtedly indicate *Ph. fuligiventer*, a species not heretofore reported west of Sikkim in the breeding season.

U.S. NATIONAL MUSEUM,
DIVISION OF BIRDS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20560,
September 20, 1969.

M. DESFAYES

10. NESTS OF THE BAYA, *PLOCEUS PHILIPPINUS* (LINNAEUS) ON TELEGRAPH WIRES

Colonies of the nest of the Baya (*Ploceus philippinus*) on telegraph wires are not unknown in India (Kirkpatrick 1952 ; F. N. Betts 1952). However, the following observations may perhaps be of interest.

While searching for breeding colonies of the Finn's Baya in Dhora Dam area, near Rudrapur, Kumaon terai, Naini Tal Dist., on 10 September, 1962, I saw a very large concentration of Baya nests on the telegraph wires running through sugarcane fields. In all there were 117 nests distributed in seven groups of 7, 14, 70, 5, 4, 5 and 12 nests. The breeding season was nearly over, but a few nests contained young ones as evidenced by the feeding trips of the parents. The nests were without long attachments, and the entrance tubes of the nests were also greatly reduced.

These structural adaptations to the new situation of the nesting site probably serve to reduce swinging movements. It was interesting to observe that although suitable trees were available bordering the sugarcane fields yet the birds selected the telegraph wires for nesting.

NEW RANGARI BLOCK,
OLD G.B. ROAD,
BANDRA, BOMBAY,
May 20, 1969.

V. C. AMBEDKAR

REFERENCES

- BETTS, F. N. (1952) : Birds nesting on telegraph wires, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 51 : 271.
KIRKPATRICK, K. M. (1952) : Baya (*Ploceus philippinus* Linn.) nests on telegraph wires, *ibid* 52 : 657.